

60,130-1467
02MRA0266**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend paragraph 3 as follows:

The fluid reservoir allows the main chamber to be constructed shorter than normally would be allowed and may allow the use of a larger shaft that connects the piston and damper assemblyshock absorber to one of the mounting members of the damper assemblymember. The shaft takes up volume within the damper assemblymain chamber and the larger the diameter of the shaft, the less volume available for the storage of hydraulic fluid in the main chamber. For these reasons, it has been found desirable to provide additional hydraulic fluid within a remote reservoir chamber.

Please amend paragraph 4 as follows:

Typically, communication between the dampermain chamber and the reservoir chamber is provided by a fluid communicating passage such as a flexible hose or steel tubing. As appreciated, the connection between the dampermain chamber and the reservoir chamber requires seals. Dampers typically operate at extreme pressures and each seal is a potential leak point. In addition, an external hose or tube is exposed to potential damage given the harsh environment within which the dampershock absorber operates.

Please amend paragraph 5 as follows:

Accordingly, it is desirable to develop and design a reservoir chamber for a damperassemblyshock absorber that eliminates external passageways to prevent potential damage and eliminate potential leak points.

60,130-1467
02MRA0266

Please amend paragraph 7 as follows:

The ~~damper assembly~~~~shock absorber~~ of this invention includes a damper chamber and a reservoir chamber. The damper chamber and the reservoir chamber are formed by aluminum extrusion to form mating features that combine to form the fluid communication passage between the damper chamber and the reservoir chamber. The extruded mating features are designed to aid assembly and provide an interlocking profile between the main ~~damper assembly~~~~chamber~~ and the reservoir chamber. The reservoir chamber is mechanically attached to the main damper ~~tube~~ ~~or~~ chamber such that the reservoir chamber and main damper chamber cooperate to form a passage therebetween.

Please amend paragraph 8 as follows:

In another embodiment of this invention the damper chamber and reservoir chamber are integrally formed by an aluminum extrusion such that each of the chambers are formed in parallel to another in a common housing. The passageway is then formed between the two ~~common~~ chambers to eliminate the need ~~of~~ for any seal or mechanical attaching means.

Please amend paragraph 17 as follows:

Referring to Figure 1, the damper assembly 10 of this invention includes a first housing 12 defining a damper chamber 16. The damper chamber 16 includes a piston 22 attached to a shaft 28. The shaft 28 extends from the damper chamber 16 for mounting of the damper assembly 10. The opposite end of the housing 12 includes an end cap 26 with a mounting opening 27 used for mounting the damper assembly 10. The piston 22 divides the chamber 16 into upper and lower portions. The piston 22 moves within the chamber 16 dampening oscillations between two mounting members (not shown) movable relative to each other. As appreciated, the mounting of the damper assembly 10 is known to a worker skilled in the art and any mounting scheme that is known to a worker skilled in the art would be within the contemplation of this invention.

60,130-1467
02MRA0266

Please amend paragraph 18 as follows:

The damper chamber 16 is in fluid communication with a reservoir chamber 18. The reservoir chamber 18 is defined by a second housing 14. The second housing 14 is mechanically attached to the first housing 12. Straps 30 secure the second housing 14 to the first housing 12. Although straps 30 are shown in Figure 1, it is within the contemplation of this invention to use other mechanical attachment means known to a worker skilled in the art.

Please amend paragraph 19 as follows:

Referring now ~~also~~ to Figure 2, mating features 34 align the second housing 14 to the first housing 12 and include a key 36 that is disposed within a keyway slot 38. The key 36 is preferably formed on the first housing 12 and the keyway slot 38 is preferably formed on the second housing 14. Also formed within each of the housings 12, 14 is a passageway 20. The passageway 20 provides fluid communication between the damper chamber 16 and the reservoir chamber 18. The passageway 20 is sealed by an o-ring seal 32 disposed between the housing 12 and 14.

Please amend paragraph 22 as follows:

Referring to Figures 2, 3 and 4, the extruded housings 12 and 14 include ~~matting~~ the integrally formed mating ~~sections~~ features 34. ~~One of the mating sections is preferably a key or tab portion that extends and cooperates with a keyway slot formed in the other mating section.~~ The first housing 12 includes the key 36 and the second housing 14 includes the keyway slot 38. Although a key and key slot configuration is shown in this embodiment, it is within the contemplation of this invention that other integrally formed mating features as are known to a worker skilled in the art are within the contemplation of this invention may also be used.